From: Gordon C. Hawkins
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 3:01pm
Subject: Microsoft Case

I don't have a lot of time to write you a long-winded letter telling you
all the reasons why you shouldn't settle the Microsoft case, but i'll leave
you with this impression.

I work in the computer industry - I hate Microsoft. They are the worst
thing that ever happened to computers. I am not saying that I dislike
their operating systems, I do think they make the occasional good product,
but there is NO COMPETITION. Their pricing is overvalued, and their
licensing agreements wouldn't be signed even if the Spanish Inquisition was
still in control. Even though my e-mail address is a Canadian address, I
am an American and I do vote, and I urge you -

BREAK UP MICROSOFT.

I know the DOJ has fought hard in this case, and there is a lot of good
work being done by the DOJ in this case - BUT DON'T QUIT NOW. PLEASE.

Consumers need a future where they have choice. Open standards will always
prevail over proprietary standards - MS does not support open standards.

Consumers need security. Microsoft has continually failed in providing the
industry with secure products - or support furthering security on the
Internet in a collective manner. For instance, IPv6 - Internet Protocol
Version 6 - is a standard that has been developed, and if implemented would
make the Internet much more secure. MS has done nothing to promote or
implement this standard. Just a quick thought, with the recent rash of
virus threats, why hasn't Microsoft 'strong-armed' their channel partners
to bundle their software with Anti-Virus software instead of their Internet
Browser?

Microsoft deliberately mis-engineers products in order to sell expensive
upgrades later. Case in point - Windows Millennium Edition, possibly the
worst OS ever created, was released less than a year before "Windows XP
(eXtra Pain)." I would propose that Microsoft DID THIS ON PURPOSE, so that
consumers using Windows ME would be dying for an upgrade when their systems
disintegrate due to a neutered driver base, or networking stack, or
complete lack of functionality that was in Windows ME. Why create Windows
ME? Grab some quick cash from unsuspecting consumers and then force them
to upgrade to Windows XP later.

I could really go on and on, but I must close with one last thought (a
repeat) -

KEEP THE FIGHT UP. BREAK UP MICROSOFT.

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(originally from MARINA DEL REY, LOS ANGELES, CA)